

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Appln. No. 10/019,560

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): Flexible container made of film material for containing a fluid substance, comprising:

a fill opening and

a partitioning means along which a first container wall part is placed against a second container wall part, the partitioning means dividing the container in a first and a second compartment characterized in that the partition means comprises a restraining member which maintains a substantially fluid tight separation of the first and second compartment until a predetermined pressure is achieved in the first compartment,

wherein at the predetermined pressure, the restraining member is released by the fill pressure for placing the first and second compartment in fluid communication;

wherein said flexible container is a generally cylindrical shape, and the restraining member comprises at least two closure lines extending essentially from a top of the container to the bottom of the container, on each side of a longitudinal center line; and

wherein a front film layer is joined to a back film layer along the closure lines.

2.- 3. (canceled).

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4. (previously presented): Flexible container according to Claim 1, characterised in that the container is folded double along the closure lines, a first layer of the film material folded double being attached via the restraining member to a second layer of the film material folded double.

5. (previously presented): Flexible container according to Claim 4, characterised in that the restraining member comprise adhesive tape.

6. (previously presented): Flexible container according to Claim 4, characterised in that on either side of a centre line of the container two side strips of the container are folded double along fold lines located parallel to the centre line.

7. (previously presented): Flexible container according to Claim 1, characterised in that the film storage means are formed in that a portion of the film material has been displaced from the peripheral edge of the container to the centre of the container and is positioned between wall sections located opposite one another.

8. (previously presented): Flexible container according to claim 1, characterised in that the fill opening is provided with a shut-off valve, air being at least partially removed from the container.

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9. (previously presented): Filling method for filling a flexible container with a fluid substance, comprising the following steps:

- placing the flexible container in a relatively rigid container, the flexible container being provided with a film material for containing a fluid substance comprising a fill opening and a partitioning means along the which a first container wall part is placed against a second container wall part, the partitioning means dividing the container in a first and second compartment, characterised in that the partitioning means comprises a restraining member which maintains a substantially fluid tight separation of the first and second compartment until a predetermined pressure is achieved in the first compartment, wherein at the predetermined pressure, the restraining member is released by the fill pressure for placing the first and second compartment in fluid communication;

- filling the first compartment with the fluid substance via a fill opening in the container,
- activating the film storage means via the fill pressure such that the second compartment is released, and

- filling the second compartment until the film material of the flexible container is at least largely in contact with the wall of the rigid container ;

~~wherein said flexible container is a generally cylindrical shape, and the restraining member comprises at least two closure lines extending essentially from a top of the container to the bottom of the container, on each side of a longitudinal center line~~

wherein, during filling, at least one of a flow rate and a fill pressure is measured and a change in the at least one of the flow rate and the fill pressure is determined on activation of the film storage means.

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10. (previously presented): Method according to Claim 9, characterised in that air is removed from the flexible container before the flexible container is inserted in the rigid container.

11. (previously presented): Method according to Claim 9, characterised in that the flexible container is folded double along closure lines, the container sections folded double being attached to one another by the restraining member which can be released by fill pressure.

12. (canceled).

13. (previously presented): An assembly, including:
the flexible container according to Claim 1, and
a generally cylindrical, rigid outer container, said flexible container inserted into said generally cylindrical, rigid outer container;
wherein a central cylindrical area is defined between the closure lines;
wherein upon filling and expanding the flexible container, vertical sides of the flexible container of the flexible container outside the closure lines do not press against the walls of the rigid outer container; and
wherein after release of the closure lines, the flexible container material outside the closure lines is pressed into contact with the rigid outer container.

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14. (previously presented): The method according to Claim 9, further comprising inserting said flexible container into a generally cylindrical, rigid outer container; wherein a central cylindrical area is defined between the closure lines; wherein upon filling and expanding the flexible container, vertical sides of the flexible container outside the closure lines do not press against the walls of the rigid outer container; and wherein after release of the closure lines, the flexible container material outside the closure lines is pressed into contact with the rigid outer container.